

**Business Area #10:
West Cambridge/Alewife**

Boundaries: bordered by the Charles River, the Watertown, Belmont, and Arlington Lines, Alewife Brook Parkway, the B&M Railroad, Sherman Street, Garden Street, Mason Street, and Ash Street

Major areas of Business/Retail/ Industrial concentration include: businesses and offices on Mt. Auburn Street between 180 and 700 including the Star Market, the Fresh Pond Mall, industrial and research complexes on Smith, Fawcett, Mooney and Cambridge Park Drive, the Huron Village area, shops and restaurants on Concord and Garden Street.



Alewife/West Cambridge

Commercial Robbery decreased by 46% in 2005. Three of the seven robberies were committed by note passing bank robbers who hit establishments on Huron, Mt. Auburn and Alewife Brook Parkway in mid-April. They were captured after a high-speed, cash- tossing, chase through the Ted Williams Tunnel. The East Boston and Watertown residents were arrested and linked to all three of the bank robberies. During the second half of 2005 there were two commercial robberies one at a Sunoco Gas Station where a male suspect showed the clerk a knife and demanded the money from the register. The second late year robbery was at a sporting goods store in the Fresh Pond Plaza, where a male attempted to buy sneakers but instead pulled a small silver handgun from his pocket, held it to the sales persons head, and demanded money. • Historically, **larceny from the person** has seldom been a major problem in this district. The majority of thefts by pickpockets in 2005 have been from distracted shoppers at the Fresh Pond Mall. • **Larceny from building** declined by 13% in Alewife in 2005. The 60 incidents included the thefts of employees' property from back rooms at business offices, thefts of backpacks, purses, and cell phones at local schools, and wallets from restaurants/bars. No patterns were identified. • A high percentage of the **shoplifters** arrested at TJ Maxx, CVS and Whole Foods at the Fresh Pond Mall were Boston residents. Further analysis reveals that the peak time frame for shoplifters in this business district is between the hours of 6 p.m. and 9 p.m. • The majority of the **commercial burglaries** in this area were on weekend nights. Nearly 50% of the incidents were during the summer months with three restaurants targeted.

CRIME	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Larceny from Building	54	64	61	71	60
Larceny from Person	42	41	19	24	25
Commercial Burglary	8	25	18	16	14
Commercial Robbery	4	5	3	13	7
Shoplifting	42	60	35	49	39
Fraud/Flim	36	48	44	38	50
Flam/Counterfeiting					